

In re Application of:
Carson, et al.
Application No.: 0-9/616,247
Filed July 14, 2000
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PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: UCSD1370-5

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the claims to more clearly define the composition as a polynucleotide composition. Support for the amended language can be found throughout the specification and specifically on page 14, line 18 through page 18. Support for the term "immunomodulatory" can be found on page 15, lines 10-11, wherein the nucleotide sequences for dnaJp1 and other "immunostimulatory or immunosuppressive" i.e., immunomodulatory, peptides are described, for example. In summary, Applicants maintain that claims 10 and 18-24 clearly and patentably define the invention, respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the various grounds set forth in the Office Action, and respectfully request the allowance of the claims which are now pending.

If the Examiner would like to discuss any of the issues raised in the Office Action, Applicant's representative can be reached at (858) 677-1456. Please charge any additional fees, or make any credits, to Deposit Account No. 50-1355.

Respectfully submitted,

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Version with Markings to Show Claim Amendments

10. (Twice Amended) A [vaccine] polynucleotide composition useful in inducing immune protection against arthritogenic peptides in a host comprising a recombinant gene expression vector which encodes bacterial dnaJp1 peptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:

4.

18. (Amended) The [vaccine] composition of claim 10, wherein the recombinant gene expression vector further encodes at least one dnaJ polypeptide other than dnaJp1 peptide.

19. (Amended) The [vaccine] composition of claim 18, wherein the dnaJ polypeptide is found in a human dnaJ protein.

20. (Amended) The [vaccine] composition of claim 10, further comprising a recombinant gene expression vector which encodes at least one dnaJ polypeptide other than dnaJp1 peptide.

21. (Amended) The [vaccine] composition of claim 20, wherein the dnaJ polypeptide is found in a human dnaJ protein.

22. (Amended) The [vaccine] composition of claim 10, wherein the dnaJp1 peptide is produced by bacteria selected from at least one of the genera consisting of *Escherichia*, *Lactococcus*, *Klebsiella*, *Proteus*, and *Salmonella*.

23. (Amended) The [vaccine] composition of claim 10, further comprising an [immunostimulatory] immunomodulatory compound.

24. (Amended) The [vaccine] composition of claim 23, wherein the [immunostimulatory] immunomodulatory compound is TGF-[α] β .